

Exploring Careers - whats right for you

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

(1) Does it surprise you to learn that people change careers an average of six times in their lives? Can you offer examples of family members or other adults you know who have changed careers often?

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

(2) What does the guidance counselor, Ms. Olmyer, mean when she says that “picking a career is a process”? What does she mean when she says the first step in choosing a career is to get on the right “staircase”? What would be the wrong “staircase”?

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

Answer3: _____

(3) Do you know someone whose work doesn't fit his/her personality? Is the person successful? Is he/she happy? Why do you think that person chose that career?

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

Answer3: _____

Answer4: _____

(4) Describe the Holland Hexagon. What is the idea behind it?

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

(5) Describe the Doer personality type. Would you say you fit this type or have any of the same characteristics? Explain. Do you know anyone who has a job that would appeal to a Doer? Explain whether you think the job is right for that person.

Answer1:_____

Answer2:_____

Answer3:_____

(6) Describe the Thinker personality type. Would you say you fit this type or have any of the same characteristics? Explain. Do you know anyone who has a job that would appeal to a Thinker? Explain whether you think the job is right for that person.

Answer1:_____

Answer2:_____

Answer3:_____

Answer4:_____

(7) Describe the Creator personality type. Would you say you fit this type or have any of the same characteristics? Explain. Do you know anyone who has a job that would appeal to a Creator? Explain whether you think the job is right for that person.

Answer1:_____

Answer2:_____

Answer3:_____

Answer4:_____

(8) Describe the Helper personality type. Would you say you fit this type or have any of the same characteristics? Explain. Do you know anyone who has a job that would appeal to a Helper? Explain whether you think the job is right for that person.

Answer1:_____

Answer2:_____

Answer3:_____

Answer4:_____

(9) Describe the Persuader personality type. Would you say you fit this type or have any of the same characteristics? Explain. Do you know anyone who has a job that would appeal to a Persuader? Explain whether you think the job is right for that person.

Answer1:_____

Answer2:_____

Answer3:_____

Answer4:_____

(10) Describe the Organizer personality type. Would you say you fit this type or have any of the same characteristics? Explain. Do you know anyone who has a job that would appeal to an Organizer? Explain whether you think the job is right for that person.

Answer1:_____

Answer2:_____

Answer3:_____

Answer4:_____

(11) What are the career fields that Ms. Olmyer predicts will be in great demand in the next century? Explain why.

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

(12) Discuss why the mechanic's Doer personality matches his interests and abilities and makes his career a good one for him. Why does he recommend a "good, well-rounded education" as a pre-requisite for his line of work? Name some other careers for Doers.

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

Answer3: _____

(13) What does Ms. Olmyer mean when she says that although one type is dominant, everyone is a mix of personality types? Why is it important to know your secondary and even your third personality type?

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

(14) Discuss why the computer programmer's Thinker personality type matches his interests and abilities and makes his career a good one for him. What do you think his secondary personality type is likely to be? Why?

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

Answer3: _____

(15) Discuss why the graphic artist's Creator personality type matches her interests and abilities and makes her career a good one for her. What do you think her secondary and third personality types are likely to be? Why?

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

Answer3: _____

(16) Why does a career as an emergency medical technician appeal to someone whose personality type is Helper but whose secondary and third types are Thinker and Doer?

Answer1: _____

(17) Name some careers for Helpers that don't involve health care. Choose one of these careers and tell what you think the person's secondary and perhaps third personality types are likely to be.

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

(18) Discuss why the assistant hotel manager's Persuader personality type matches her interests and abilities and makes this career a good one for her. Name another career for people with Persuader personality types. What secondary and perhaps third personality types do you think a person would have to have in order to be satisfied in the job?

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

Answer3: _____

(19) Discuss why the medical records technician's Organizer personality type matches his interests and abilities and makes his career a good one for him. What do you think his secondary and perhaps third personality types are likely to be? Name some other careers for people with Organizer personality types?

Answer1: _____

Answer2: _____

Answer3: _____

(20) Why is choosing the type of work you will be performing in a career field a more important decision than the field itself?

Answer1:_____

(21) What steps should you take before deciding on a career you want to pursue?

Answer1:_____

What personality are you?

ARE YOU A DOER?

Mark *Yes* or *No* next to each of the following questions to learn how much you resemble a Doer personality.

____ Do you enjoy working with your hands?

____ Are you mechanically inclined and good at fixing things?

____ Do you prefer concrete problems, not abstract ones?

____ Do you like working outdoors?

____ Are you athletic?

____ Do you prefer to “tell it like it is” rather than beat around the bush?

____ Do you like activities like fishing, hiking, camping?

____ Do you hate getting dressed up?

Would your friends call you:

____ practical?

____ reliable?

____ physically strong?

Total Yes Answers (put a number here) ____

ARE YOU A THINKER?

Mark *Yes* or *No* next to each of the following questions to learn how much you resemble a Thinker personality.

- _____ Do you like math and science?
- _____ Do you prefer to work alone?
- _____ Do you enjoy finding solutions to complicated problems?
- _____ Would you call your attitudes unconventional?
- _____ Do you have confidence in your intellectual abilities?
- _____ Is it easy for you to get wrapped up in a project?
- _____ Do you like games that require you to solve a series of puzzles?
- _____ Do you dislike being put in charge or having to persuade people to your point of view?

- Would your friends call you:
 - _____ curious?
 - _____ analytical?
 - _____ independent?

Total Yes Answers (put a number here) _____

ARE YOU A CREATOR?

Mark *Yes* or *No* next to each of the following questions to learn how much you resemble a Creator personality.

- _____ Do you enjoy music, art, and drama?
- _____ Do you prefer to work in a free, unstructured environment?
- _____ Do you like small, intimate groups?
- _____ Do you find it hard to stick to a routine?
- _____ Do you prefer to do things your own way?
- _____ Are you willing to take a risk and try something new?
- _____ Do you keep a diary or journal?
- _____ Do you dislike activities that require you to do the same thing over and over again?

- Would your friends call you:
 - _____ unconventional?
 - _____ expressive?
 - _____ imaginative?

Total Yes Answers (put a number here) . _____

ARE YOU A HELPER?

Mark *Yes* or *No* next to each of the following questions to learn how much you resemble a Helper personality.

- _____ Are you sensitive to the needs of others?
- _____ Do you find it easy to talk to other people?
- _____ Do you enjoy teaching and tutoring others?
- _____ Do you like to help people solve their personal problems?
- _____ Do you dislike working with machines and tools?
- _____ Do you enjoy working in groups?
- _____ Do your friends come to you when they need someone to talk to?
- _____ Have you ever done volunteer work to help needy people? If not, would you like to?

- Would your friends call you:
 - _____ caring?
 - _____ cooperative?
 - _____ friendly?

Total Yes Answers (put a number here) _____

ARE YOU A PERSUADER?

Mark *Yes* or *No* next to each of the following questions to learn how much you resemble a Persuader personality.

_____ Do you try to convince people to see things your way?

_____ Do you like to take a leadership position?

_____ Do you enjoy making things happen?

_____ Do you like competition?

_____ Are you good at organizing activities for other people?

_____ Are you energetic and ambitious?

_____ Do you like to talk in class or participate in debates?

_____ Would you like to be elected an officer in your school's student government?

Would your friends call you:

_____ sociable?

_____ ambitious?

_____ assertive?

Total Yes Answers (put a number here) _____

ARE YOU AN ORGANIZER?

Mark *Yes* or *No* next to each of the following questions to learn how much you resemble an Organizer personality.

- ____ Do you prefer a well-ordered environment?
- ____ Do you like working with numbers and records?
- ____ Are you most comfortable with steady routines?
- ____ Are you careful, orderly, and calm?
- ____ Are you good at analyzing information?
- ____ Do you value material possessions and status?
- ____ Do you like to collect things like sports cards, coins, or stamps?
- ____ On a trip, are you the person who locates the destination on the map and finds the best route?

Would your friends call you:

- ____ steady?
- ____ orderly?
- ____ dependable?

Total Yes Answers (put a number here) . ____

What Personality Type Am I?

Now that you have answered the questions, count up the number of Yes answers you have put down for each type.

I have ____ Yes answers for the Doer Personality Type.

I have ____ Yes answers for the Thinker Personality Type.

I have ____ Yes answers for the Creator Personality Type.

I have ____ Yes answers for the Helper Personality Type.

I have ____ Yes answers for the Persuader Personality Type.

I have ____ Yes answers for the Organizer Personality Type.

Using your highest, second-highest, and third-highest scores as a guide, fill in the blanks below.

I am most like the _____ Personality Type.

I am next most like the _____ Personality Type.

The third type I am most like is the _____ Personality Type.

Recognizing Personality Combinations

What do you think are the dominant and secondary personality types of the students described below?

- (1) Outgoing and energetic, Ted likes to make things happen. As business manager of the school yearbook, he's had a banner year soliciting ads. He likes to engage his teachers in friendly argument, and has recently organized a SADD program in his school. On weekends and during the summer, Ted volunteers as a Little League coach. Last year his team won their division title. He's hoping that this year's team will repeat as champs.
Ted is most likely a _____ / _____
- (2) Lisa has been spending most of her free time on the science project she hopes to enter in the city-wide science fair, taking advantage of the school's lab equipment to examine slides of the specimens she has collected on nature walks. Since one of her hobbies is sketching, she plans to give her project an artistic mounting. For ideas, she's been visiting museums in her area to see how expert designers have solved the problem.
Lisa is most likely a _____ / _____
- (3) Doug has liked drawing and sketching for as long as he can remember, but ever since discovering computers and their ability to create all kinds of art, he's been deep into designing computer graphics. Because he needs more room for his computer equipment, his parents have given him permission to convert a section of the garage into a studio. So Doug is spending most of his time putting up dry walls and painting his new space.
Doug is most likely a _____ / _____

- (4) Tara is the bookkeeper for the school's Junior Achievement program. She loves animals and helps care for the family's two dogs, overseeing their training and feeding and walking them twice a day. The older couples who live on either side of her house pay her to walk their dogs along with hers when they are away. As a volunteer on Saturdays at the local nursing home, Tara always brings her dogs with her as the elderly patients enjoy seeing them. In order to keep her busy life in order, Tara keeps a schedule of her activities posted on a bulletin board over her desk. She also has one taped in her locker at school.
- Tara is most likely a _____ / _____
- (5) Jason has always been fascinated by statistics. At the beginning of the baseball season each year, he sets up a program on his computer so he can track the statistics of all major league players. He updates his files on a regular basis. Jason also has an extensive, and very valuable baseball card collection, which he has catalogued on his computer. Some of his prize cards are very rare. He keeps those in special holders that he bought at a sports card collector's show.
- Jason is most likely a _____ / _____
- (6) Erica is captain of the school's softball team and is in charge of the team picnic at the end of the season. To raise money for the picnic, she is organizing a bake sale, so she spent the weekend baking brownies and cookies which she and her teammates will sell in the school cafeteria. Erica is thinking of running for Senior Class President and plans to ask her teammates to campaign for her.
- Erica is most likely a _____ / _____

Occupations for the 21st Century with Highest Total Job Openings

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that into the year 2005, the following 21 occupations will have the fastest growth, highest earnings, and largest numbers of openings. Occupations are listed by projected total job openings (in thousands) in descending order:

Teachers, secondary school - 782 Registered Nurses -
740 Systems Analysts - 481
Licensed Practical Nurses - 341 Social Workers - 288
Police Patrol Officers - 271 Lawyers - 268
Teachers, special education - 262 Physicians - 205
Correctional Officers - 194 Computer Engineers -
191 Residential Counselors - 158
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists - 129 Heating, Refrigeration,
& Air-Conditioning Mechanics - 125 Instructors and Coaches, sports and physical
training - 119
Artists and Commercial Artists - 117 Designers, except
interior - 113
Writers and Editors, including technical writers - 111 Management Analysts - 109
Instructors, adult (nonvocational) education - 107 Teachers and
instructors, vocational education - 104